

SONG OF SONGS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

A Biblical Vision for Marriage, Sex, and the Body

WALLS VS. DOORS

Read the Text

Song of Songs 8:8-13

¹ Oh We have a little sister,
and she has no breasts.

What shall we do for our sister
on the day when she is spoken for?

⁹ If she is a wall,
we will build on her a battlement of silver,
but if she is a door,
we will enclose her with boards of cedar.

She

¹⁰ I was a wall,
and my breasts were like towers;
then I was in his eyes
as one who finds peace.

¹¹ Solomon had a vineyard at Baal-hamon;
he let out the vineyard to keepers;
each one was to bring for its fruit a thousand pieces of silver.

¹² My vineyard, my very own, is before me;
you, O Solomon, may have the thousand,
and the keepers of the fruit two hundred.

He

¹³ O you who dwell in the gardens,
with companions listening for your voice;
let me hear it.

Main Point

In this passage, we see a flashback as the woman prepares for her future marriage. We see that she saves herself for her future husband instead of giving into sexual temptation and lust. This is discussed in terms of being a wall or a door. ***Being a wall is where we submit to God's design and set our bodies apart for marriage, while being a door is where we submit to culture and engage in sexual intimacy that is reserved for marriage.*** This is a lot easier said than done though. Our culture inundates us with messages that our sexuality is our own and that we can do whatever we want with whomever we want whenever we want. God has something better for us though.

So what happens if we previously chose to be a door instead of a wall? It is too late? Are we without hope? Absolutely not. There is nothing beyond God's redemption. ***Jesus invites us to repent of our sin – past and present – and when we do, he offers forgiveness and restoration and we can go from being a door to being a wall.***

How is all of this possible!? It seems too good to be true. God is perfectly just. Any sin is a sin against Him, and He can't just turn a blind eye to that. ***We are made right before God through propitiation; where God takes away His punishment on us and instead places it upon Jesus through the sacrificial gift of Jesus' death on the cross.*** Jesus willingly lived a perfect life without sin and took our punishment on the cross to the point of his excruciating death so that we could be reconciled to God. All we need to do to receive this gift is to accept Jesus and submit our lives to Him.

Reflect Together

Review these questions before discussion and decide if you'd like to separate into gender specific groups.

1. **What are the challenges of being a wall in a culture that encourages us to be doors?** Where do you personally struggle with this, and what are some guardrails you need in place to maintain you as a wall?
2. **Do you have a story of repenting and confessing of past sexual sin done by you or to you and experiencing God's forgiveness and redemption?** What was challenging about that process? How did you experience freedom?
3. Jesus both forgives our sin and cleanses us from sin done against us. That's it. We are made clean. **How are you doing with accepting this truth that you are made clean – restored to a wall? Where do you doubt it? How do you resist it?** Take time to stop and pray for one another as people respond to this question. The enemy would love nothing more than for you to be silent on this and not confess your unbelief.